SHANKARANAND): (a) A project entitled "strengthening the Survey Research Capabilities of the Population Research Centres" was taken up by Government of India with the funding support of United States Agency for International Development to the extent of US $ 3.3 million. One of the components of this project is carrying out a nation-wide National Family Health Survey.

(b) International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Bombay, which is under the administrative control of the department of Family Welfare, was designated as the nodal agency for the implementation of the above project. East West Population Centre, Hawai, was identified by USAID to provide technical guidance and supportat various stages of the project.

(c) Government of India is associated with the survey through different Committees set up for the purpose and also through the nodal agency. The preliminary reports prepared from the survey data, are shared with the concerned State Governments. In the data analysis and subsequent report writing phase, both IIPS and all Population Research Centres are fully involved.

Incidence of fluorosis

1664. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is wide-spread incidence of fluorosis, the bone and tooth disease, in India caused by excess fluorine;

(b) with excess fluorine already present in potable water, whether Government would consider banning tooth-pastes containing fluoride, which are used by poorer sections of the population even in rural areas; and

(c) whether Government would also ensure compulsory fluoridisation of drinking water supplies all over the country to provide adequate in-take of fluorine?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Fluorosis is endemic in 13 States of our country.

(b) The Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1945 has permitted the maximum limit of flouride content in tooth paste as 1000 p.m.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Opening of PGI on the lines of AIIMS in Every State Capital

1665. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to set up a post graduate medical institute on the lines of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in the capital of each State; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not the cogent reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Health is a State subject and considering the limited resources available with the Government, the establishment of such institutions in the states is not considered foasible.

World Bank's AID to Check Leprosy, Blindness and T.B.

1666. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the world Bank has approved three massive schemes, valued at about Rs. 1700 crores for eliminating leprosy by the turn of the century, controlling blindness in seven States and containing T.B. in five metropolitan towns; and